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Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services

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Extensions of country programmes

Summary

The present note contains information on the extensions of UNFPA country programmes. First-time extensions of country programmes up to one year are approved by the Executive Director, and presented to the Executive Board for information. All other requests for extensions of country programmes are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programme for Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Gabon, Mauritania and Sudan, as presented in table 1, and may wish to approve the second one-year extensions of the country programmes for Burkina Faso and Burundi and the two-year extensions of the country programmes for Malawi and Senegal, as presented in table 2.

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Table 1

Extensions of country programmes approved by the Executive Director

Country	*Original programme period*	*Period approved for extension*	*Reason for extension*
Cape Verde	2012-2016	2017	With parliamentary, presidential and local elections (scheduled between March and September 2016) delaying the national planning calendar, the Government agreed with the United Nations country team (UNCT) to extend the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for one year to align with the national planning cycle; this also allows the UNDAF process to continue with Delivering as One. The preparation of a new strategy document for growth and poverty reduction, for 2017-2021, will only start once a new government is formed and main programmatic lines have been identified.
Central African Republic	2012-2016	2017	The Government and the UNCT agreed to extend the UNDAF for one year to align it with the National Development Plan. In 2017, the Government will work to conclude the new National Development Plan for 2018-2022, which aims to reflect the need to balance emergency and humanitarian priorities with the Sustainable Development Goals. The extension is required to support this broad transitional agenda.
Gabon	2012-2016	2017	The Government and the UNCT agreed to extend the UNDAF for one year to align the next programme cycle with the revised National Development Plan (Plan Stratégique pour un Gabon Emergent) and with the national Sustainable Development Goals. As a result, the current UNDAF has been revised, forming the basis for the extension.
Mauritania	2012-2016	2017	As the current National Development Plan ends in June 2016, with the next plan starting in July 2016, the Government and the UNCT agreed to extend the UNDAF for one year so that it can be fully aligned to the government planning cycle. The extension of the UNDAF and the respective country programmes will also allow UNCT to fully participate in the national development plan process.
Sudan	2013-2016	2017	The Government agreed with the UNCT to extend the UNDAF for one year, to align the UNDAF with national priorities currently aligned to the national development plan under formulation. In addition, the UNCT will have the opportunity to develop better linkages of the UNDAF with the Humanitarian Response Plan, the Darfur Development Strategy and in the formulation of a resilience strategy.

Table 2
Country programme extensions for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

Country	*Original programme period*	*Period proposed for extension*	*Reason for extension*		
			In-country development	*United Nations harmonization*	*Implementation or other issues*
Burkina Faso	2011-2015 2016 (first extension)	2017 (second extension)	After the presidential and parliamentary elections held in November 2015, the new Government installed in January 2016 decided to develop a new five-year medium-term national development plan, in line with the changing economic and social context.	The Government and the UNCT agreed to extend the UNDAF for one more year, to align it with the new national planning cycle. The extension will allow sufficient time to develop the next country programme in consultation with all stakeholders, based on the national priorities and sustainable development goals.	The programme will focus on outputs linked to the demographic dividend: (a) high-quality family planning services for vulnerable women and youth, including in humanitarian settings; (b) integrated maternal and neonatal health services; (c) development of human resources capacities; (d) national capacities for youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services, (e) national legal framework and operational capacities to address gender equality, gender-based violence, and sexual and reproductive rights; and (f) national policies for utilization of the demographic dividend. The Sahel Women Empowerment and Demographic Dividend project, started in 2015, will continue beyond the duration of the programme extension.
Burundi	2010-2014 2015-2016 (first extension)	2017 (second extension)	The political context, combined with the effects of El Nino, has weakened the delivery of basic social services in Burundi since 2015.	The Government and the UNCT agreed to extend the current UNDAF for one more year, to ensure alignment with the new cycle of the Poverty Reduction Strategic Framework for 2017-2021. The extension will allow sufficient time to develop the next country programme in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.	The programme will focus its support on: (a) high-quality family planning services for women, men, adolescents and youth; (b) maternal health services, including obstetric fistula treatment; (c) sexuality education and youth-friendly services; (d) involvement of youth in social cohesion; and (e) strengthening the capacity of the Government to invest in the demographic dividend for sustainable and inclusive development.
Malawi	2012-2016	2017-2018 (two-year	The current Malawi Growth and Development Strategy ends in 2016. The country is currently confronted with economic	The Government and the UNCT agreed to extend the UNDAF for two years to ensure coordinated and collective support to national efforts	The programme will focus on (a) preparation of the National Population and Housing Census planned for 2018; (b) improving

Country	Original programme period	Period proposed for extension	Reason for extension		
			In-country development	*United Nations harmonization*	*Implementation or other issues*
		extension)	instability and recurrent emergencies; this also has led to significant delays in the development of the next National Development Plan.	in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and to align the next UNDAF with the national planning cycle and national priorities.	maternal health through interventions in preventing and treating obstetric fistula and emergency obstetric care; (c) strengthening reproductive health commodity security mechanisms and increasing capacity for family-planning demand generation; (d) advocating for incorporating adolescents and youth sexual and reproductive health needs in national laws, policies and programmes; (e) strengthening protection systems for advancing reproductive rights, promoting gender equality and addressing gender-based violence; and (f) advocating for incorporation of demographic dividend policies into the national planning process.
Senegal	2012-2016	2017-2018 (two-year extension)	Senegal has strong, stable democratic institutions based on sound policies and approaches. The Government is planning to make Senegal a middle-income country by 2035 by implementing of the Emerging Senegal Plan. The President of the Republic, currently Chairman of West Africa States Economic Commission (ECOWAS) and New Partnership for Africa Development (NEPAD), has pledged to use these leadership positions to champion youth issues in Africa, including during 2017 African Union Summit on Youth in Addis Ababa.	In 2014, Senegal formulated the Emerging Senegal Plan to achieve middle-income status by 2035. To ensure alignment of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework with the plan, the Government and its United Nations partners agreed to extend the UNDAF for two years, until 2018. The UNFPA country programme will be aligned accordingly, as a two-year extension will allow the agencies and the Government to prepare the Delivering as One approach that will be applied in Senegal from 2019.	The programme will focus on: (a) reducing maternal mortality, through enhanced access to and improved quality of emergency obstetric and neonatal care, and also access and demand for family planning services; (b) improving strategic positioning of adolescents and youth needs in national plans and programmes for the realization of the demographic dividend; (c) and development and operationalization of a partnership and resource mobilization plan.